

delighted and improved the world; and with what accuracy this observer of nature has described the production of the Forest, an accuracy not excelled by that of Spenser's description of the woodland haunts he so much loved.

"Nor less attractive is the woodland scene,
Diversified with trees of every growth,
Alike, yet various. Here the gray smooth trunks
Of ash, or lime, or beech, distinctly shine,
Within the twilight of their distant shades:
There lost behind a rising ground, the wood
Seems sunk, and shorten'd to its topmost boughs.
No tree in all the grove but has its charms,
Though each its hue peculiar; paler some,
And of a wannish gray; the willow such,
And poplar, that with silver lines his leaf,

And ash far-stretching his
Of deeper green the elm; a
Lord of the woods, the long
Some glossy-leaved, and shi
The maple, and the beech,
Prolific, and the lime at de
Diffusing odours: nor unne
The sycamore, capricious in
Now green, now tawny, and
Have changed the woods, in

PLATE XXXVI.—THE TALL OAK AT FR

This Oak completes the trio which has been already described as standing on the Esq. of Fredville, in Kent; plates of the other two have also been given in the early part of this volume. It is known by the appropriate name of *Stately*, and is a beautiful specimen of a tree rarely found to attain to so great a height, without branching out into exuberance. Oaks so differing from each other in individual character, and so interesting altogether, are not to be met with in any other part of the country. Protected from violence, they are still likely to stand for many centuries, and that they will as long continue to delight the descendants of the family by whom they were first valued, and so carefully preserved.

PLATE XXXVII.—THE HORSE CHESNUT AT

The Horse Chesnut, we are informed by Evelyn, was first brought from Constantinople into Italy, and so to France: but more immediately to us from the Levant. It is said to have been introduced into England about the year 1500; and so well has it liked its naturalization, that it is now one of the chief ornaments of our groves and parks; and from the value of its timber in feeding deer, and the majestic beauty of its appearance, few trees will be so much the attention of the planter. To the painter the magnificence of its stature, and the leaves, and long pendant spikes of flowers scarcely atone for the exceeding regularity it invariably does when left to the hand of nature, in an exact parabola. But in the tree, which is to be seen in the Court-yard of Burleigh House, the ancient and noble seat of the Marquess of Exeter, all its beauties will be found exhibited in their utmost perfection. From being enclosed in a space comparatively confined, it has exchanged for increased length of stem; the tree having shot up unusually high, to lift its head above the surrounding walls, which at once shelter it from the injury of the elements in which the "native boughs of the forest" naturally delight. Its the velvet turf on which it stands, exhibit a delightful alternation of milk-white flowers and the stately trunk displays an elegance and majesty, which combined with the venerable appearance, filling the mind with recollections of the Cecils and the Burleighs of former ages, looked upon without exciting feelings in which tranquillity and admiration are most prominent.

The height of this fine tree is sixty feet, its circumference at four feet from the ground is three hundred feet of solid timber, and its branches extend over an area of sixty-one feet.